

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison 6

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

April 21, 1950

Dr. T. M. Sonneborn
Department of Zoology
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sonneborn:

While teaching a course in microbial genetics last semester I encountered the difficulty that most of the primary source readings, such as your paper, were available only as single copies in the original journals, and were otherwise out of print. As an expedient to help meet this teaching problem, as well as to satisfy a need felt by research workers, especially those entering the field recently, I have proposed to our University of Wisconsin Press the reprinting, by litho-print or related process, of a selected set of fundamental papers in microbial genetics. The collection is not intended to take the place of a textbook but rather to provide, in convenient form, some of the essential papers whose significance in microbial genetics is not likely to be transient. It is proposed to undertake this reprinting on a cost basis so that the elimination of profit and royalties can be reflected in a reasonably low price.

Because no profit is anticipated and also because the proposed publication could not be regarded as a vital, original, scholarly contribution, the Press is anxious to evaluate the potential market very carefully. In order to do this it will be necessary to mention the names of a few of the authors from whom we hope to solicit contributions. May we put down your name in this context? The survey is to be used for information only and not for promotional purposes.

At this time we are asking only for consent to include your name in a list of potential contributors in the Press' evaluatory questionnaire. Your permission now implies no obligation to approve re-publication if the response convinces the Press that the venture should be undertaken. However, if you foresee any insuperable obstacles to participation, your comment would be appreciated.

Mr. Thompson Webb, the Director of the University of Wisconsin Press, will be pleased to receive any comments you may wish to make on the proposed publication.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Joshua Lederberg
Asst. Prof. of Genetics

/s

Sonneborn mss. II
Manuscripts Department, Lilly Library
Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

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